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Cleveland Metroparks Next Phase Of Planning For The New Euclid Beach Pier

by Stephanie Winget

Cleveland Metroparks is eager to provide an update on the new Euclid Beach Pier project. Following meetings with Councilman Mike Polensek and September's public meeting at the Collinwood Recreation Center, the Park District has completed the preliminary design documents necessary for permitting the new pier and has now completed removal of the former Euclid Beach Pier.

Cleveland Metroparks recently submitted permit applications to allow construction of the pier to several agencies, including the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

As Cleveland Metroparks awaits feedback and subsequent approval on the permit applications, preparation work will continue for commencement of construction. "We are excited to move forward with the next steps of the Euclid Beach Pier," said Cleveland Metroparks Chief Planning and Design Officer, Sean McDermott. "As we continue progress with this catalytic

project, our highest priority and focus is on improved guest experience, accessibility and safety for park visitors."

Since 2013, Cleveland Metroparks has continued work on improvements to Euclid Beach, Villa Angela and Wildwood Park in Euclid Creek Reservation. The Euclid Beach Pier project addresses improvements in a phased approach, which includes a focus on ADA accessibility, expanded trails along the waterfront and a new plaza at Euclid Beach Park. Construction of the pier will occur in phase one, with updates to the plaza and surrounding areas in phase two. The new pier is expected to be approximately 285 ft. long from the top of the bluff, with approximately 120 ft. extending over Lake Erie. Construction of the Euclid Beach Pier will commence upon the issuance of permits and the approval of final plans, which the Park District hopes to be in summer 2017.

Cleveland Metroparks is looking forward to an exciting year ahead, and to the kick-off of the 2017 Euclid Beach LIVE summer concert series with Disco Inferno!



Brian Friedman to leave Northeast Shores as Many New Faces Elected to the Board



by Cindy Barber

Northeast Shores Development Corporation is welcoming six new board members and one returning face, mine. I previously served on the board from 2001 until 2010 and held the office of board president for the final couple of years. I am choosing to step back onto the board now because the organization is in a rather large transition, with Executive Director Brian Friedman stepping down as of February 2 after 13 years in that position, and current board President Laura Lee Martin is also leaving that position, along with Treasurer Aaron Haberman.

I was on the search committee when Northeast Shores hired Brian Friedman as a young ambitious community-minded ED. He had worked in Lorain County and interned in Columbus and was ready to take on North Collinwood even though he was still in his twenties. In his 13 years, he leveraged the arts development that was happening on Waterloo and brought millions of dollars of grants to the area. He and his team also successfully transformed the corner of Neff and E 185th into a new Sav-a-lot and Key Bank, and more recently took on the gigantic task of rehabbing the old LaSalle movie theater. The list of accomplishments is too long to go into here, but I am sure we will be thanking Brian in public sometime soon.

Today, there are gigantic tasks before Northeast Shores starting with a search for a new Executive Director. For now Assistant Director Camille Maxwell will be jumping in as Interim ED. The LaSalle

project needs to raise the final funds to complete that project. Northeast Shores needs to complete its move to E 185th and finish the transformation of its current offices on E 156th Street into live/work spaces. And so much more.

That is why I and 6 other North Collinwood activists/cheerleaders all decided to sign up to run for the board this year and then invited everyone we know to come vote for us. So in the end, the room at the Rec Center for the Annual Meeting, on Tuesday January 17, was crowded and 103 votes were cast, and more people paid annual membership dues to Northeast Shores than ever before. Elected were Christen DuVernay, a resident in the Waterloo neighborhood with extensive non-profit and teaching experience; John Farina, a resident of Shore Acres who also has extensive non-profit experience and started the Maria Neil Art Project in Waterloo; Robert Gatewood, a lifelong resident of the area who is launching his own design company/collaborative space in conjunction with the LaSalle; Adam Tully, a resident of Shores Acres, librarian and partner in Maria Neil Art Project; Peter Brown, a Waterloo resident and business owner of Six Shooter Coffee, and Daniel Gray Kontar, writer, educator and founder of Twelve Literary and Performative Arts space in the old Northeast Shores office complex on E 156th. I, of course, am also a 30-year neighborhood resident and co-owner of the Beachland Ballroom, which we started in 2000.

There were 16 capable people running for 7 seats on the board. I think it was a surprise to all 7 of us that we swept the election. So we want the entire neighborhood to know that we all are ready to work hard for North Collinwood, and request that everyone who joined NESD to vote for us, now needs to also join committees, add your voice to the organization, and state what you would like to see us take on as neighborhood priorities, with the help of Councilman Polensek and area funders. North Collinwood is at a crucial turning point with many eyes watching how we will handle our potential in the next few years. If you are not a member of Northeast Shores, please join and come to meetings.

Blackwater Roasters Brings Fresh Roasted Coffee To East 185th St.



On Monday, January 30th at 6 am. Blackwater Roasters opened its doors at 818 East 185th Street. Owner, Nathan Baker, is proud to be serving his house roasted coffee and homemade baked goods to the Collinwood community. Their hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 6 am to 9 pm, Friday 6 am to 11 pm, Saturday 7 am

to 11 pm, and closed on Sunday.

The newly remodeled interior looks classy and comfortable. The coffee was excellent and reasonably priced. There is an wide selection of board games for young and old. Be sure to stop in and support this new local business.

Community

The Collinwood Observer

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Next deadline: February 25, 2017

You can mail your stories to the Collinwood Observer office at 650 E. 185th Street, Cleveland, OH 44119.

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Councilman's Corner



by Michael D. Polensek

I am sure you have heard the phrase, "buckle up, hang on, we are in for a bumpy ride!" Well, folks, I think we are on an interesting ride both in this country and maybe locally. We have a new President and

As the old saying goes, "the proof will be in the pudding." Locally, we are all watching as to what federal and /or state programs could be affected by the possibility of federal departments being eliminated/ combined or the reduction in funding for economic development initiatives and capital improvements. Only time will tell. I can assure you that this year will be very interesting and one we will not soon forget.

Just when you think you are prepared for "almost anything" we get the word on Sunday, January 22, that our dear friend, the Honorable Judge Raymond L. Pianka, of the Cleveland Municipal Housing Court, died suddenly. Just as we were not prepared for the death of our neighbor the Honorable Senator George V. Voinovich last summer, Judge Pianka's death was a real blow to our neighborhoods. My heartfelt sympathy goes out to his wife, Karen, and their family. Besides losing a personal friend we lost an advocate for housing code enforcement, not only on the prosecution side, but for restoration, preservation, and advocacy on behalf of our neighborhoods. May he rest in Peace.

The death of Cleveland Police Officer David Fahey, killed in the line of duty on Tuesday morning, January 24, 2017, should remind all of us to be mindful of what we are doing at all times when we are behind the wheel, and to pay attention to sirens and emergency lights of our safety forces whenever they are out protecting us or responding. Things happen quickly out on the road and Tuesday morning's incidents are a perfect example of how a simple accident turns into an all-out tragedy. On behalf of the residents of the 8th Ward our condolences to his family and fellow officers at his loss. "Officer Fahey answered his last call. Gone but not forgotten." Let us keep in our hearts and prayers all our "Men and Women in Blue", our Police Officers, as well as firefighters and EMS personnel, who work daily on our behalf and many times in harm's way.

As we move through the month of February the annual budgetary process for the city begins in earnest. I don't have to tell you how critical this process is this year. Community Block Grant Hearings will be held on February 7th - 9th beginning at 9:00 AM each day and then City of Cleveland's Capital Fund Budget hearings begin on Tuesday, February 21 and will run for two weeks again beginning at 9:00 AM each day. You can watch them on City

TV20 or via the internet live. I encourage you to follow the process. Whatever is set forth during these budget hearings will impact all of us this fiscal year as to what programs and services will be offered. As I have stated before, my number one priority is improving and restoring basic city services and addressing "quality of life" issues. I am looking forward to seeing what initiatives the Mayor puts forth to address the growing concerns city-wide about the lack of quality services and the fact that we are all paying 25% more in city income tax for these critical and much needed services.

Once again, we have a new boss of the 5th District Police. Commander Sammy Morris, a longtime resident of Ward 8 has taken the helm. We look forward to working with him so that we can continue to keep the Ward 8 community the safest in the 5th District.

There are major changes under way at the Northeast Shores Development Corporation (NSDC). Several new board members have been elected and a new Executive Director will be appointed to take the helm since Brian Friedman stepped down. I wish Brian well in his future endeavors. I encourage all residents and businesses north of I-90 to become a member in NSDC, your local development group, who may be reached at (216) 481-7660. The same holds true for residents and businesses south of I-90 in the Collinwood and Nottingham Villages areas; become a member of the Collinwood Nottingham Villages Development Corporation who may be reached at (216) 383-9772.

Remember, if there is a concern or issue in the ward feel to call me at my office at (216) 664-4236 or email me at mpolensek@clevelandcitycouncil.org. Looking forward to seeing you at all the upcoming neighborhood meetings and events.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

COLLINWOOD HOMEOWNERS MEETING
1st Wednesday of the month
7:00 PM
St Mary Church
15519 Holmes Avenue

EAST 185th STREET NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
2nd Tuesday of the Month
6:00 PM
Lithuanian Hall
877 East 185th Street - next to Post Office

DEMOCRATIC WARD CLUB
2nd Wednesday of the Month
6:30 PM
Collinwood Slovenian Home
15810 Holmes Avenue
PRESIDENT: Councilman Polensek

EAST 156th STREET NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
3rd Wednesday of the month
6:00 PM
Collinwood Recreation Center
16300 Lakeshore Boulevard

5th DISTRICT COMMUNITY RELATIONS MEETING
3rd Wednesday of the month
6:00 PM
Collinwood Community Services Center
East 152 Street

EAST 140TH STREET NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
4th Wednesday of the Month
6:00 PM
Collinwood Community Services Center
East 152 Street

OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (SCHOOL) COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
1st Tuesday of the month
6:00 PM
Collinwood Recreation Center

CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL
Monday night at 7:00 PM
Please note - this is a public and open meeting but does not take public commentary

Any questions about these meetings please feel free to call Mary Louise, Councilman Polensek's office, (216) 664-4236 or Julia DiBaggio, Northeast Shores Dev. Corp., (216) 481-7660

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Stomp on the Brakes and Learn Which Local Manufacturer Stamps Brake Components



by Gina M. Tabasso

Stamco Industries Inc., 26650 Lakeland Blvd., Euclid, Ohio, was started by William Sopko in 1983 when he bought the assets and building from another stamping company that closed in 1982. He chose to locate in Euclid, Ohio, because, "The City of Euclid is friendly towards manufacturing. In the 34 years that we have been located in Euclid, Stamco has made three or four plant expansions, and the city was very supportive of these activities."

The company is a heavy-gage metal stamper. That means that it takes flat sheets of metal or metal that comes in a coil (picture the rolls of steel that you see being transported on trucks on the freeway), puts it in machine that feeds the steel into the stamping press that goes up and down with a huge amount of force to generate a component or finished product at the end of the machine.

These parts are used by the braking industry in cars, trucks, SUVs, semis, farm

equipment, military equipment and aircraft. Depending on which brand of vehicle you drive, if it's a major American brand, more than likely Stamco's parts are in the brakes of your car or truck. Roy Richards, manager of commercial operations at Stamco, says, "I find it very satisfying to see parts produced with our equipment in our building and to see vehicles every day that are comprised of those very parts."

But, Stamco is a job shop, which means it doesn't have a product of its own or actually make the brakes. It buys supplies from a warehouse that buys the raw material from a metal manufacturer. Then, it provides a service by making a component at the request of a supplier. That supplier makes the finished product (brake or brake component) to sell to another supplier that assembles it then sells it to the manufacturer who makes the vehicle. Did you know that many companies are involved in making a vehicle's brake system that keeps you safe on the road?

The presses that Stamco uses to manufacture these parts are medium to heavy tonnage, which means they are large and powerful. For example, a Ford F-150 can carry 1.5 tons of cargo. These presses have a 3,000-ton capacity. The parts being manufactured are larger in size and weigh as much as 20 pounds each. Because of this, 80 percent of Stamco's customer base is within 500 miles; although, it does export to Belgium, India, Mexico and Brazil. And, for the same reason, the main material that Stamco uses - steel - is purchased from local steel warehouses that purchase it from



ArcelorMittal USA in Cleveland's Flats. This creates a strategic advantage due to much lower transportation costs.

You may be familiar with the term "tool and die." The unit put into the press to stamp the part is called a die. Stamco makes some dies, purchases others, and is provided with dies by the customer that is placing the order. Therefore, the company employs a full staff of tool-and-die makers, engineers, designers, machine operators, die setters and lift-truck drivers. "The company was developed with a teamwork philosophy. Employees learn to operate a certain press then are assigned to other presses in order to crossstrain on other pieces of equipment," Sopko says.

With regard to the company's foresee-

able future, he states, "Our greatest challenge is finding experienced engineers and tool-and-die makers, and in next couple of years we will have people retiring. I am conscious that the skilled workforce pool is smaller than it was before, and we will be looking for new people." He shares that for Stamco, as well as other local manufacturers, 2015/2016 was slow but he believes business will pick up a bit in 2017. At the end of 2017 and into 2018, Stamco has new projects scheduled and will be busy. That's great news for the local economy! Gina M. Tabasso, marketing communications specialist, HGR Industrial Surplus, www.hgrinc.com

"Accused!" is my latest release of Biblical fiction. If you enjoyed my other books, "The Healings" and "Coming Home," I know you'll enjoy reading this one. It is the story of Tahmari, a young woman caught in adultery, as depicted in the Book of St. John 8, verses 1-11. She had no name, only her occupation was recorded. What, in her past, drew this Jewish woman into a life of prostitution? John tells the story of the woman who was used by the religious leaders to confront Jesus concerning the Laws of Moses. Everyone has a past, present and future, and in this fictional book you will read about her life. Get your auto-graphed copy today from the author, or you may download to your eBook reader through Westbow.com, Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, etc. — eMail the author today at lonnieswilliams@att.net to request your autographed copy. Soon to be seen in your favorite library and Christian bookstore.

The author, Lonnie-Sharon Williams, is a mother and grandmother and resides in the North Collinwood area of Cleveland. Contact her at lonnieswilliams@att.net.

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Events

A View From the Stage

by Philip Hrvatin
 January 22, 2017 Over 100 people dined at danced to the music of the Joey Tomsick Orchestra at the Slovenian Workmen's Home ballroom on Waterloo Road.
 The "Kitchen Angels" continue fish fries every Friday from 3-8pm. The balina/

bocce courts are active with leagues playing throughout the week. The ballroom features swing dancing on Saturday and polka dances on Sunday.
 Call 216-481-5378 for reservations or additional information.

Lourdes Shrine Offers French Toast Breakfasts



by John Sheridan
 As a fundraiser the Euclid shrine of our Lady of Lourdes will be serving French toast breakfasts on two upcoming Sundays - February 5 and March 5 at the shrine compound on Chardon Road. Serving will take place from 8:45 AM to 11:30 AM
 The menu includes French toast, bacon or sausage, coffee or tea, and juice. Ticket price is five dollars. The event will also include a mini craft fair.
 The Shrine which includes a replica of the grotto in Lourdes, France, where the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Bernadette in 1858, is located at 21281 Chardon Rd., Euclid. For further information call 216-481-8232.

Collinwood Slovenian Home - Share Holder Meeting

by Bob Podlogar
 Collinwood Slovenian Home "Share Holder Meeting"
 The Collinwood Slovenian Home will hold their annual Share Holder meeting on Sunday, February 12th, 2017 at 1:00PM. The meeting will be held at the Collinwood

Slovenian Home located at 15810 Holmes Ave.
 We strongly urge all Share Holders to attend this very important meeting.
 For more information contact the Club Room at 216-681-6649.



The 8th Annual Waterloo Alley Cat Project Fundraiser



All money raised goes to help Waterloo's community cats! Donations of cat food and cat supplies will be accepted at the door and greatly appreciated!
 The Waterloo Alley Cat Project is an all volunteer nonprofit group comprised of both residents and business owners who came together after sharing a concern over the large number homeless/stray cats struggling to survive around the Waterloo business district. The group has been practicing the humane method of trap-neuter-return (TNR) for seven years and, since its inception in 2009, the group is proud to report that after spaying/neutering over 300 cats, the cat population has decreased drastically. Their dedication and hard work has helped to forge a positive image for the neighborhood.
 If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to NORTH-EAST SHORES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization which acts as fiscal agent for the Waterloo Alley Cat Project. Please write WACP in the memo line of your check and mail to: P.O. Box 19246, Cleveland, OH44119. All donations are tax deductible.
 For the latest news on what we and the kitties are up to, visit www.waterloocalleycatproject.org. There you can view our photo galleries and find resources for feral cat initiatives.

by Debbie Gulyas
 On Saturday, February 18, 2017, The Waterloo Alley Cat Project is holding its 8th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER from 7 to 11 pm at the historic Slovenian Worker's Home located at 15335 Waterloo Road in Cleveland. This year, the group has added a \$1,000 Grand Prize Raffle to the festivities along with fabulous basket raffles and silent auction items. Music will be provided by Ace Molar featuring Todd Meany from Channel 8. Admission is \$20 per person.

Euclid Beach Adopt-A-Beach Team 2017 Cleanup Schedule!



by Stephen Love
 There's never been a better time to get outside, tidy up the neighborhood and help protect our Great Lakes environment. The Euclid Beach Adopt-A-Beach Team is gearing up for another year of cleanups and we'd love to have you join us! Check out our upcoming events, give us a like on Facebook, and contact us anytime at adopt.euclidbeach@gmail.com!
 March 25, 2017 - Cleanup Details
 Volunteers will meet outside the Collinwood Recreation Center (16300 Lakeshore Blvd.) in the parking lot at 10:00 AM for registration. Cleanup teams will pick up litter along Lakeshore Boulevard. Gloves, bags, rakes and trash pickers will be provided. However, you are welcome to bring your own. We will have coffee and other

refreshments. Volunteers under 18 are required to have a parent or guardian complete the sign in registration and volunteers under 13 are required to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
Why a Street Cleanups?
 Every time it rains, litter from our streets makes its way into our storm sewers and our storm sewers outflow either directly into Lake Erie or into creeks and tributaries. If it is on the ground, chances are it will make it into our water. Let's do our part to keep trash out of our waterways!
Need motivation?
 All volunteers will receive a coupon good for one half off the purchase of a drink and meal item from Chili Peppers Restaurant (869 East 185th Street). Please be sure to thank owner Steve Newman when you stop in!
2017 CLEANUP SCHEDULE
 March 25 @ 10:00 AM - Street Cleanup
 April 15 @ 10:00 AM - Euclid Beach Cleanup
 May 6 @ 10:00 AM - Neighborhood Cleanup - "Collinwood Cleanup Day."
 June 10 @ 10:00 AM - Euclid Beach Cleanup
 August 5 @ 10:00 AM - Street Cleanup
 September 16 @ 10:00 AM - Euclid Beach Cleanup - "International Coastal Cleanup Day."
 October 14 @ 10:00 AM - Street Cleanup
 November 18 @ 10:00 AM - Euclid Beach Cleanup

Taste the Neighborhood & Awards

Save the Date for this year's Taste the Neighborhood, Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at the Lithuanian Hall. Join Northeast Shores to sample foods from our neighborhood's many restaurants and eateries. From ribs and wings, to sausage to soup, there is something for everyone. Don't forget to bring your checkbook as we'll continue the tradition of having a Chinese raffle featuring the amazing businesses in Collinwood.
 This is more than a fundraiser; it's an opportunity to honor the amazing people of Collinwood. Submit your nomination by January 27th and why they deserve to be recognized for the following categories:
 Outstanding resident: Regular folks who go that extra mile.
 Amazing Block Watches: Neighborhood groups that have made great achievements throughout the year.
 Best Business: Celebrate the achievements of your favorite local business and their owner.
 Investment of the Year: What change this year helped make Collinwood such a great place.
 Collinwood Hall of Fame: Recognition of one person's dedication and devotion to the betterment of the neighborhood.
 To purchase tickets, make a nomination or for additional information, contact Julia DiBaggio at 216-481-7660 or jdiBaggio@northeastshores.org

Cover The Stump!! Benefit for Greg and Beth Sonnhalter Saturday Feb 25th



by Betsy Voinovich
 On Saturday, February 25th, there will be a benefit for Greg and Beth Sonnhalter from 5 to 9pm at The Porch, 37638 Vine Street in Willoughby. There will be a Chinese Auction, Door Prizes and Side Boards. \$20 for adults and \$15 for children until February 15th, after that, \$25 and at the door, which includes pizza, wings, potato skins and salad with a cash bar. Please contact Abby, 440-364-1480 or Kurt, 330-883-4266 for tickets or donations.
 Come and support these two deserving Collinwood residents through a difficult and challenging time in their lives.

Greg has been a Type 1 diabetic for 38 years and has struggled with ulcers on his left foot for over two years. Due to the slow healing process, infection and multiple surgeries over the last year, he and Beth determined that the best course of action was to have a below knee amputation of his left leg. He is currently recovering from the surgery and waiting for the prosthesis process to begin. Through the last year of surgeries and hospital visits his work has been sporadic and the bills are starting to pile up as well as the additional cost for the prosthesis. Beth's parents, Fred and Sharon, have been an enormous help so Beth can continue to work as much as possible.
 Greg has been part of the O'Reilly Auto Parts team for 26 years, loves spending time with family and friends and is a Cleveland fan for life. Your help and support is appreciated!
 *If you are unable to attend but would still like to donate we have set up a GoFundMe account in Greg and Beth's name. The link is https://www.gofundme.com/greg-bethbenefit

Community

Bike Euclid News and Bicyclist of the Month



by Kath Sonnhalter
 Euclid Brewing Company will bring back its Join Bike Euclid for our first meeting of the new year, Thursday March 2, 2017, 6-8pm, at Euclid Brewing Company 21950 Lakeshore Blvd, Euclid, OH 44123. We will discuss our work in 2016, events planned for 2017, available resources, and how to get involved. We have some exciting projects in the works, such as the upcoming Commuting & Touring Workshop to take place April 23, 10-3pm, at the Beachland Ballroom.
 Bike Euclid is pleased to announce that we are to become the next chapter of Bike Cleveland. This closer working relationship will benefit residents of both communities as well as bicyclists throughout the region. Look for more on this next month in the March issue.
 Bike Euclid will now feature a Bicyclist of the month. If you would like to be considered for future inclusion, submit a photograph of yourself on your bike and responses to the following questions. Now for our new feature...
Bicyclist of the month Jody Lathwell, Euclid resident.
Where do you enjoy riding?
I like riding anywhere, but appreciate being able to ride from my house. I like to explore the city, but also love being able to get to where there are more trees, and I feel lucky that I can do both in one ride!
You ride your bike to work. Describe the experience.
My commute to work is about 7 miles; I call it my la-la time, a time when I can just chill out and decompress from the day. I have friends that I would never have met if I didn't ride to work. I ride when I don't have to ferry my kids somewhere, although they are starting to catch the cycling bug.
If you could change or improve one thing about the experience, what would it be?
It would be nice to have better road conditions. More importantly, I would improve car driver education and manners.
Why do you ride?
I love riding because it makes me feel free and like a kid again.

Local Students Host Multi-Cultural Event

by Yoellie Perez
 The holidays are an exciting time for students and families of The Intergenerational Schools. Before dismissing for Winter Break, each campus holds a large open house event called "Celebration of Learning." This is a time for students to share something special they have learned in their classrooms with friends, family, and community members during a themed event. At Lakeshore Intergenerational School, visitors were transported around the globe during their "It's A Small World" showcase.
 Over the course of several weeks, each classroom studied a country of their choosing. With direction from Visual Arts teacher Arenda Evans and research collected in class, they created elaborate displays that highlighted different aspects of their country's culture. Several guest speakers volunteered to assist with this research, speaking with children and offering interactive presentations. Visitors included an L.I.S. parent from Jamaica, family of staff members who are from Ghana and England, a Reading Mentor who shared her family's Italian traditions and culture, and two associates from the Lubrizol Corporation who generously spoke with students about life in Egypt and India. It was a tremendous effort from all parties involved and made for spectacular results!
 Teachers and students went above and beyond to create a culturally authentic experience for guests. Many offered traditional food for snacks, created art pieces and poems, performed dances and songs in native languages, and even modeled clothing from their country of choice. It was an enormous success. Students were genuinely proud of the work they produced as a classroom community and it showed in the excitement that filled the school in the days leading up to the event. Several family and community members in attendance were impressed by the quality of work the children presented. Many expressed their gratitude for L.I.S., recognizing the outstanding education their children are receiving and the dedication of its teachers and staff.
 We are so thankful for our wonderful educators who are able to inspire this love of learning in our students and their families who support their success. As we begin a new year and set our sights on new goals, this is a welcomed reminder of what makes our school community such a special place.
 Early enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year has begun for grades K-5. Please call our main office at 216-586-3872 for more information or visit the Lakeshore Intergenerational School campus on March 1 at 5:30 p.m. for our Parent Information Session.

Leadership Changes at Northeast Shores

by Nan Kennedy
 Around this time of year most of us make The NSDC annual meeting on January 17 had - for once - a large and enthusiastic attendance, who voted in seven new trustees: Christen DuVernay, John Farina, Robert Gatewood, Adam Tully, Cindy Barber, Peter Brown and Daniel Gray Kontar.
 They will join the current board members - Frank Barresi, Martin's Men's Wear; Joe Bruzas, ImageMart; Larry Fielder, Rust Dust & Other 4 Letter Words; Kevin Flynn, VASJ; Marlene Gatewood-Allen, Resident; Allison (Ali) Lukacsy- Love, Resident; Laura Lee Martin, Resident; Emily Lauren Martis, Resident; Rhonda McLean, Resident; Scott Andrew Mills, Maverick Insurance; Tim Moore, Resident; Vaiva Neary, Resident; Filippo Scafid, Euclid Hospital; and Michele Seyranian, Hospice of the Western Reserve - in finding a new executive director (target date June 30), and encouraging her/him to build on the community's vision for our neighborhood - which includes more shopping and greater safety.
 The hope is that the next phase of development will build on the arts-oriented funding on Waterloo to bring in new business there, and that the LaSalle will provide an anchor to encourage much more business development on E185. Good luck, y'all!
 Notes I was able to scribble during the PowerPoint presentation:
 There will be a grand opening for the LaSalle theatre and shops in June; apartments will take longer. If you'd like to support the transformation, you can get pledge forms from NSDC - payable over three years. (Interest-free, apparently a big selling point.)
 Median home values in the neighborhood have risen, and foreclosures are down. Twelve new tenants have moved into the Glencoe, nine in the Renters' Equity program.
 Waterloo is at its highest occupancy since NSDC began operating. The organization is engaged in a city-wide conversation on growing the local music scene. And very practically - 300 people were helped by NSDC's expungement clinic, which shows ex-felons how to have minor offenses scrubbed from their records so that they can get jobs.
 The annual NSDC survey of community satisfaction showed growing appreciation of the neighborhood's recreation and parks (89% counted those as an attraction), authenticity (78%), uniqueness (75%), activity (69%) and walkability. The view of more basic community aspects has grown more favorable but is still low: a place to raise kids 39%; a safe place 40%; good entertainment and shopping 40.8% (I'd have to quarrel with the entertainment - maybe they should be separated in future); quality of life 48.7%; and cleanliness 50%.
Where Do You Fit In?
 The NSDC staff who ran the meeting in the absence of Brian Friedman issued several pleas for community involvement (a song Councilman Polensek has been singing as long as I've known him). You voted in board members - now call them and ask just how you go about getting involved. An easy way is to join a committee - and you have five to choose from: Commercial Development, Fund Development, Marketing, Quality of Life and Residential Development.

Scout Mass to Celebrate Shared Heritage

by Erin Randel
 The non-profit PetFix Northeast Ohio - a Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of all ages, past and present, are invited to Saint Casimir Parish on Sunday, February 26, 2017 at 12 noon for a special All Scout Mass. Uniformed scouts from local parishes will serve as readers and ministers, and attendees are invited to wear their Scout uniforms or the insignia from their time in Scouting.
 The mass will celebrate the shared heritage of Scouting and mark the birthday of the founder of The Boy Scouts Association and Girl Guides, Lord Robert Baden-Powell. His success inspired his friend Juliet Gordon Low to return to her native Savannah, Georgia in 1912 and start the very first troop of Girl Scouts of the USA.
 Since 1926, Scouts have celebrated Baden-Powell's birthdate, February 22 - which he shared with his wife, Olave—as World Thinking Day. Scout families in more than 145 countries around the globe celebrate over 110 years of Scouting supporting the physical, mental and spiritual development of young people, so that they may play constructive roles in society. Olave wrote that, though we cannot visit with our brother and sister scouts around the globe, "you can reach out to them there in your mind. And in this unseen, spiritual way you can give them your uplifting sympathy and friendship."
 The celebration will be a full Catholic Mass, but all are welcome at St. Casimir. The church is located at 18022 Neff Road in Cleveland.



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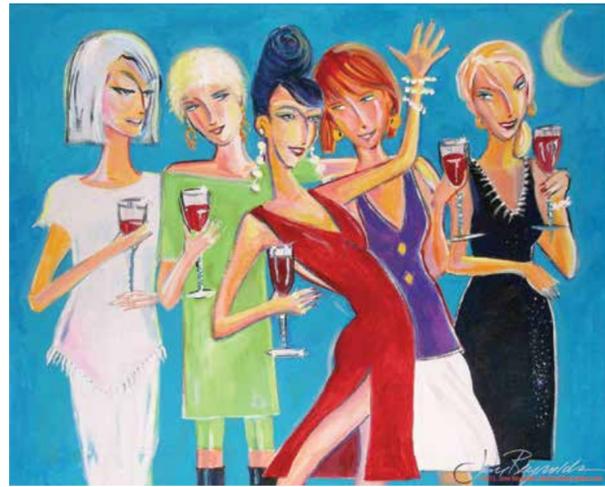
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Community

'Girls Just Want To Have Fun' art exhibit on view March 2017

Save the Date for the opening night of 'Girls Just Want To Have Fun' during Walk All Over Waterloo on Friday, March 3rd from 6-10pm. Artwork credit: Jane Reynolds

by Allison Lukacsy-Love
When the working day is done Girls, they want to have fun

Cyndi Lauper's hit 'Girls Just Want To Have Fun' first recorded in 1979 shaped my formative years. Hot pink fishnet, fluffy tulle, glitter everywhere – what's not to love?

Fast forward a few decades: to this col-

lection of female artists, "fun" takes on a multitude of meanings but at its core holds dear friendship and the celebration of the female spirit.

Revel in the joy and power of Women's History Month in March by attending over 60 all-female exhibitions in galleries across Northeast Ohio. Founded by Mary Urbas in conjunction with the "from WOMAN"

show at Lakeland Community College, look for the directory of participating galleries in CAN Journal.

"Rust, Dust and Other Four Letter Words" owned by maker Larry Fielder is proud to host one such female-centric show, 'Girls Just Want To Have Fun', curated by (me!) Collinwood artist and 2016 Creative Workforce Fellow Allison Lukacsy-Love.

Participating artists include Joanne Abruzzino, Allison Lukacsy-Love, Erin Mazza, Julia Rainey, Jane Reynolds, Grace Wen and Linda Zolten Wood.

When your working day is done, join us for opening night during the monthly Walk All Over Waterloo at 16008 Waterloo Road (across from Six Shooter Coffee, enter the gallery through the Waterloo Sculpture Garden) on Friday, March 3rd from 6-10pm to celebrate art by women, of women... for everyone.

Bright, candy-colored and effervescent paintings, prints and more will delight your eyes while your tastebuds enjoy complementary sweets. And you can almost certainly guess the exhibit's soundtrack.

After Friday, March 3rd the show is on view through March 31st, 2017 by appointment.

For more information on this show and other galleries participating in Collinwood, check out the Walk All Over Waterloo Facebook event page.

Online Video and Storybook Teaches Small Children How to Avoid Dog Bites

by Greg Krizman

As difficult as it may be to believe, nearly four million Americans are attacked by dogs each year and the majority of those bitten are children between the ages of four and nine. Hundreds of dog bite cases occur annually in Ohio, many of them taking place in the Cleveland area and Northeast Ohio.

Why? Very few small children are taught how to behave around dogs they encounter. In addition, youngsters are constantly exposed to thousands of images and videos of cute, friendly puppies and dogs on TV, in the movies and on the internet (cute dog videos are a popular staple on YouTube).

Without training and by seeing those images on a near daily basis, children are led to believe that all dogs are like friendly, fluffy toys or teddy bears just waiting to be hugged and petted and that is simply not the case. Children, especially small children, need to learn to be careful and cautious around dogs they encounter.

Luckily, a community outreach effort to teach small children how to properly approach a dog and avoid the physical and emotional horror of a dog bite has been developed. The outreach effort is a project of Slater & Zurz LLP, a 12-lawyer law firm with over 40 years of experience handling hundreds of dog bites cases throughout Ohio that would rather teach youngsters how to avoid being bitten by a dog than handle another dog bite case.

After handling numerous dog bite cases, it became apparent to Jim Slater, the head lawyer of Slater & Zurz, that if training materials were available showing youngsters how to act properly around dogs, the number of dog bite attacks, and the trauma it causes to children and their families, could be reduced. Therefore, the firm commissioned a short animated video and a storybook that are available online that parents can show and read to their small children.

"If just one child avoids being bitten by a dog as a result of watching the video or reading the storybook, our effort will have been well worth it," said Slater.

The video and storybook can be seen at: dogbitesohio.com/dog-bite-prevention. A hard copy of the storybook or DVD of the animated video can also be obtained by calling 1-888-534-4850.

"It will only take a few moments for parents to show the video and read the storybook to their small children and it will certainly be time well spent," concluded Slater.

Fall in Love with Fun and Exciting Programs at the Library!

by Kiaira Jefferson
Cleveland Public Library - Collinwood Branch Library
856 East 152nd St, Cleveland, OH 44110
216-623-6934
cpl-collwd@cpl.org

YOUTH PROGRAMS:**Kids Café**

Visit the Collinwood Branch Library after school for Kids Café provided by the Cleveland Food Bank!!
Monday – Friday 3:30pm-4:30pm

Produce for Cleveland

Free, fresh produce distributed through a partnership with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. One free (5 pound) bag of produce per household, per week while supplies last.
Tuesdays (Contact branch for delivery schedule)

FREE Tutoring in All Subjects: Grades K – 8

Free one-on-one and/or group tutoring and homework help offered in partnership with Cleveland State University's America Reads tutoring services. Beginning Monday, February 6th!
Monday – Thursday, 3:00pm – 6:00pm

Cleveland Museum of Natural History (CMNH):

CMNH Vouchers are provided to the branch every month and are available to check out with your Library card! Each voucher allows FREE admission for two adults and four children. Vouchers must be redeemed within 30 days of checking out.

Secret Valentine

Give that extra special someone a super-secret surprise. This handmade valentine holds a secret!
Thursday, February 9th at 4:30pm

ADULT PROGRAMS:

The time is NOW – Take Control of Diabetes – 6 week sessions FREE
Thursdays – Jan. 26th, 2017 – March 2, 2017
Time: 10:00am - 12:00 Noon

Free Computer Classes!**Computer and Internet Basics**

Learn how to use a mouse, navigate in Windows and save files. Learn to use the World Wide Web and Plain Dealer e-Edition. Call the branch to register.

Saturdays, February 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th
11:15am-12:45pm

Special Closing for the Holidays:

Monday, February 20th – Presidents Day

Change Ahead for Northeast Shores

by Laura Lee Martin

More than 100 people were in attendance when new Board members were elected to the Northeast Shore Development Corporation Board of Directors in January. Thank you to everyone who participated in the process!

Each January, a new "class" of Board members are elected to three-year terms of service. (Sometimes shorter if they are filling a partial term.) Board members commit to attending a certain number of meetings, to serving on at least one committee, to attending events, to financially supporting NSDC and to upholding the mission. They are required to sign conflict of interest statements and to abide by organizational By-Laws.

Although they are not responsible for day-to-day operations, they have fiduciary,

legal and ethical authority over the organization. Serving on the Board of any non-profit is a great responsibility and a huge time commitment.

During the five years I've been Board President, I may not have said thank you enough. I am so grateful to the entire Board for their energy and their love for Collinwood. In particular, I want to recognize outgoing Board members—Daniel Alverio, Mike Gallagher, Aaron Habermann, Charlotte LeFelicce, David Mitchell, Caroline Peak and Joe Radisek. The members of the executive committee, Fil Scafid, Aaron, and Caroline, put in countless hours working on behalf of the agency and the neighborhood. And they have been steadfast friends during every challenge.

Not only is NSDC transitioning Board leadership, Brian Friedman, the executive

director of 13 years, is moving on. Those of us who have been close to the agency understand what miracles he and his staff have accomplished, especially in the last seven years. I was a pleasure and a privilege to work with Brian and the entire staff.

When the housing crisis hit North Collinwood hard, NSDC could no longer do business as usual. The old model of community development didn't work anymore. Brian was the first one to ask the question, "How do we create a new model? What can we offer that no other neighborhood can?" The answer to that question eventually became arts-driven community development. This is a model where the art is embedded into the very soul of the community, not just the trendy icing on top.

Artist. Poet. Restaurateur. Entrepreneur. Gallery owner. Designer. Arts advocate.

These are the new Board members—several of whom are recent transplants. Proof that this new arts-driven community development model is working for North Collinwood.

I wish the best of luck to the newly elected Board members—Cindy Barber, Pete Brown, Christen DuVernay, John Farina, Robert Gatewood, Daniel Gray Kontar and Adam Tully.

And I thank everyone in North Collinwood for supporting Northeast Shores. It is your community development corporation. A search is underway for a new ED. Please keep your eyes on the Northeast Shores FB page for ongoing information. Stay involved. Shop local. Vote.

School News

Oliver H Perry Eagle Eye December - Kiwanis Club Adopts Oliver H. Perry

by LeeAnne Shea

The local Kiwanis organization has generously adopted OHP and recently spent time in several classrooms, reading to scholars and talking with educators. We are grate-

ful for the abundance of literature donated by them, to not only our individual scholars but classrooms as well. We also look forward to the addition of the Free Little Library they will be donating!

Program to Make Hannah Gibbons, Euclid Park Students Eco-conscious

by CMSD NEWS BUREAU

Students at nine CMSD schools, including Hannah Gibbons and Euclid Park, are going to get an up-close look at their school's carbon footprint with the installation of a tool that tracks the flow of electricity in their building. The program, called Environmental Dashboard, is being funded by Oberlin College, which received a \$49,690 grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Education. CMSD is among three urban districts in the state to benefit from the grant, which will cover the costs of rolling out Environmental Dashboard at Mound, Orchard, Hannah Gibbons, George Washington Carver, Buhner Dual Language, Garfield, Almira and Euclid Park schools and East Tech High School.

Environmental Dashboard shows students real-time data about the amount of electricity their school uses monthly, daily or even hourly. Teachers will develop lessons to help students interpret what this data means, how electricity use affects the environment and what they can do to reduce their school's own environmental impact, said Timothy Sisson, who coordinates STEM content in District schools.

"If just one child avoids being bitten by a dog as a result of watching the video or reading the storybook, our effort will have been well worth it," said Slater.

The video and storybook can be seen at: dogbitesohio.com/dog-bite-prevention. A hard copy of the storybook or DVD of the animated video can also be obtained by calling 1-888-534-4850.

"It will only take a few moments for parents to show the video and read the storybook to their small children and it will certainly be time well spent," concluded Slater.

Oliver H Perry Eagle Eye December

by LeeAnne Shea

The holidays are always an exciting time for our scholars and staff at Oliver H Perry Elementary and Middle School. This past month we have had the pleasure of welcom-

ing several new partners in education into our building and hosting many exciting learning experiences and performances for our scholars.

Oliver H Perry Eagle Eye December -Cleveland Playhouse Performs "No Silly Season"

by LeeAnne Shea

On Tuesday, December 13th, we had the pleasure of hosting the CPH's, full length performance of "No Silly Season". Scholars in grades K-4th were delighted by an interactive performance set in "Seasons Elementary" where the students are learning the importance of telling the truth. Performers then spent time in individual classrooms, interacting with scholars and leading them in hands-on learning activities.



Without Tri-C, I wouldn't be where I am today.

Valencia Collins enrolled at Tri-C to earn a nursing degree, and today she has a job doing what she loves.

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Catholic Schools Week



St. Jerome's Kindergarten and First Grade Students are excited to kick off Catholic Schools Week!

by *Lyndsey Byrne*
St. Jerome School is celebrating Catholic Schools Week from January 29th to February 3rd. The children and teachers have a wonderful week planned that includes an open house, games, and community outreach activities! The children will also have a chance to visit the Book Fair during Catholic Schools Week to look for new books to purchase for their own use.

On Sunday, January 29th, we will be kicking off Catholic Schools Week with Mass at 10am followed by an Open House from 11:00-12:30. The school will be open for our present and prospective families as well as members of the community. Stop by to see what is going on at St. Jerome School!

Monday, January 30th, each classroom will be assigned a non-teaching staff member to make appreciation cards for. All of our staff members work extra hard for our students and this is just one way the children can show their appreciation.

On Tuesday, January 31st we are celebrating Parent Appreciation Day. The

children will be able to enjoy some pastries and juice with their parents/guardians at 7:30am in the gym.

Wednesday, February 1st is dedicated to our students. All the children will receive no homework for the day! The also will get to partner up with another grade level and match them in a game of bowling. The class with the highest score will get a chance to play against the teachers later that day. Our students have been practicing their bowling skills in Physical Education class!

On Thursday, February 2nd, we are dedicating our day to Community Outreach. All the students at St. Jerome School will be making cards that we can send to the Slovenian Home for the Aged. We also will be having a candy jar raffle that will be going on all week. The proceeds from this will be donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Association.

Friday, February 3rd, is Teacher Appreciation Day. We will be having parent volunteers coming in to help with lunch and recess.

We are all looking forward to another great Catholic Schools Week!

A "SOUPer" Celebration



Sister Ruth Ann and Ann Hirsch enjoy the food and the fellowship of "SOUPer Sunday."



Parishioners Paul Preto and Jackie Biondo try to decide which of the many delicious soups was their favorite while little Gianni looks on. Also pictured Rich Dybzinski, whose wife Pat revived this wonderful community gathering.

by *Adele Markert*
Oxtail Barley, Sausage Tortellini, Potato Leek, these were among the nine scrumptious home-made soup varieties enjoyed at St. Jerome's most recent "SOUPer" Sunday celebration held on January 8th. This wonderful celebration of community has recently been revived and on a day when the thermometer seemed stuck at 13° it was very much appreciated.



Pat Dybzinski, one of the originators of SOUPer Sunday, enjoys the warmth of good food and good friends.

We're going to be HOW OLD?!

by *Adele Markert*
While it doesn't seem possible, St. Jerome Parish is rapidly approaching its 100th birthday. Planning has begun for the Centennial celebration which is tentatively scheduled to begin with the annual St. Jerome Clam/Steak Bake which is held the last Sunday of September and in 2018 happens to fall on September 30th, the feast day of our patron, St. Jerome. Activities are being planned for a full year culminating with the Clam/Steak Bake in September of 2019.

We need your help to spread the word and to connect or reconnect with alumni, former parishioners, neighbors and friends. We have started a quarterly newsletter to

keep people informed of current happenings and upcoming events, including the centennial activities. If you would like to get this information visit our website www.stjeromecleveland.org and sign up, or call the church office and we'll mail you a copy!

We will be collecting memorabilia, and just as important, we want to collect and preserve memories. Do you have a favorite story or memory from back in the day? A favorite teacher or priest? We would love to hear it. We would like to preserve these either in writing or on video. Watch here in the Observer and on our website for opportunities to record your story! Be a part of history!

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Teacher of the Year

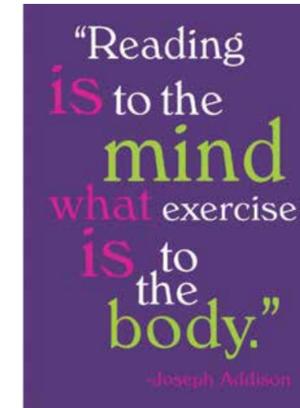


Brittney Grimes is recognized as Imagine Bella Teacher of the Year by Board President Hakeem Thornton and Principal Arun Dutt.

Imagine Bella has selected their Teacher of the Year for the 2016-2017 school year. Brittney Grimes started working at Imagine Bella in August 2015 as the Physical Education Teacher and has played a dynamic role in the school's related arts programs. Ms. Grimes infuses lessons with sports-

manship and leads the schoolwide character education initiatives. Throughout the day, Ms. Grimes also supports classrooms during daily success periods which provide in school tutoring to students in reading and math. Congratulations Brittney Grimes--Imagine Bella Teacher of the Year!

Reading Resources



ONLINE RESOURCES
State of Ohio Practice Resources
<http://oh.portal.airast.org/OCBA/students-and-families/>

Read Works- Reading Passages and Questions
<http://readworks.org>

Study Island
<http://studyisland.com>

Lexia
<http://lexiacore5.com>
***Teacher email needed for first log-in**

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Cuyahoga County Public Library Branches

Ohio's State Reading Test is around the corner.
Please see this list of resources that will help prepare students for the Reading Test. Spring Test Window is March 13-23, 2017

<http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org/home-work.aspx>
Cleveland Public Library Branches
<http://cpl.org/kids/free-tutoring/>

Imagine Bella Academy Celebrates National School Choice Week



Thank you parents for choosing Imagine Bella! Hope these scarves keep you warm!

Imagine Bella Academy of Excellence participates in nation's largest-ever celebration of educational opportunity

Imagine Bella Academy of Excellence held a special event on Monday, January 23, 2017 at 8:00 AM to celebrate National School Choice Week.

This event featured a scarf giveaway at the main entrance. Coffee was available in the main office for parents too!
Imagine Bella Academy of Excellence

is a Public Charter school serving grades Kindergarten-6 with a student enrollment of almost 300 students.

Imagine Bella Academy was one of more than 13,000 schools who participated in National School Choice Week (January 22-28, 2017). The goal of the Week was to shine a positive spotlight on all types of education options for children—from traditional public schools to public charter schools, magnet schools, private schools,



All smiles for Imagine Bella Academy. Students pose with their scarves from National School Choice Week!

online learning and homeschooling. The event was held at the school.

"We are thrilled to have Imagine Bella Academy participate in National School Choice Week by holding this special event," said Andrew Campanella, National School Choice Week president. "The Week provides an opportunity for families in communities across America to discover more about the education options available to children. We salute the students, teachers

and staff at Imagine Bella Academy for their dedication to providing a quality education for children, and for their involvement in this nationwide celebration."

For more information about Imagine Bella Academy, visit <http://imaginebellaacademy.org>.

For more information about National School Choice Week, visit schoolchoice-week.com.

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Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

Faith. Family. Future.

VASJ to hold annual benefit on April 1

The Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School community will come together again on Saturday, April 1, 2017, for the school's annual fundraiser.

"It is an evening of excitement and renewed friendships and provides the opportunity to support the students at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School as they strive and learn to become contributing citizens of our communities," says VASJ President Bill Cervenik '72.

The Continue the Dream Annual Benefit is the school's largest fundraiser of the year. The money raised helps VASJ continue its important work.

"VASJ is a very important institution in the Euclid and Collinwood neighborhoods," says Cervenik. "We provide our students and their families with a positive option of an education that will allow them to grow academically, spiritually, and socially, and teach leadership skills that will stay with them for a lifetime."

VASJ alumnus Andrew Banc '95, known as "the voice of the Vikings" for his work as basketball announcer at home games, will return as this year's emcee. With him will be two student emcees, junior Hailey Barnett and senior Daniel McGarry.

Live music will be featured throughout the evening from the band BackTrax as well as performances by VASJ's Men's and Women's Choirs.

In addition to great music, guests will enjoy a family-style dinner, drinks, silent auctions, and raffles.

The school is seeking support in the form of auction and raffle donations, sponsorships, program advertisements, and guest attendance through reserved tables and individual tickets.

"Continue the Dream allows you the opportunity to assist us in creating the future leaders of Northeast Ohio," says Cervenik.

For more information on this event, please contact Ruby Harris at rharris@vasj.com or 216-481-8414 ext. 209.

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

CONTINUE the Dream ANNUAL BENEFIT

APRIL 1, 2017

You are cordially invited to join us at our annual benefit. Guests will enjoy dinner, drinks, live music, silent auctions and raffles.

Event Emcees

Andrew Banc '95
Hailey Barnett '18
Daniel McGarry '17

Live Music

BackTrax
VASJ Men's Choir
VASJ Women's Choir

TICKETS & TABLES

\$50/person
(prices increase on March 20)

\$1,000/reserved table of 8

Reservations must be received by March 27, 2017.

Please consider making raffle/auction donations, sponsoring the event, and/or purchasing an advertisement in our event program.

For more information, contact Advancement Services Manager Ruby Harris at rharris@vasj.com or 216-481-8414 ext. 209.

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Join the Discussion at: www.collinwoodobserver.com



Faith | Academics | Community

Families Make the Difference at OLL School



Trunk or Treat is one of the popular events the PTO organizes at OLL School

Open House at OLL Showcases Quality Education Options



Even the youngest visitors love the computer lab.



The Walkathon is the PTO's largest annual fundraiser -- one of many ways they provide resources for Our Lady of the Lake School



PTO volunteers organize a uniform exchange every year -- just one of many services to support families at OLL School



Each year, Our Lady of the Lake School celebrates Catholic Schools Week at the end of January with a host of fun activities and events for students – and a few for visitors, too. This list includes geography and spelling bees, discovery day with a visit from COSI, community career day with a special guest speaker, faith activities, dress down day, movies and more. It kicked off with



Open House on January 29, when parents and children toured the school with student ambassadors, to see all the great work that's been happening. And it all wraps up with the school's biggest fundraiser of the year, the Life on the Lake Game Show Night. From the classroom to the community, Our Lady of the Lake has a lot to celebrate during Catholic Schools Week.

Our Lady of the Lake School is successful not only because it has great students and teachers – but because it has great families, too. Moms and dads, grandparents, aunts and uncles – this is the extended community that comes together to offer students extra support and to provide resources and programs. Each school year the PTO at Our Lady of the Lake plans an array of fundraisers and events, from the Walkathon to family movie night, uniform exchanges to dances, dad walks and muffins with mom and COSI day and so much more. The parents at Our Lady of the Lake go above and beyond because they want every student to feel their education is important and their community supports them. And they want

every family to feel welcome, to make the school community a fun and engaging place. Judging by the success of their events, with hundreds of students turning up for Halloween fun, dozens of moms getting together for art night, and more than 30 parents turning up for even the most routine of meetings, this parent teacher group has got a good thing going. And the whole school community appreciates all the great work that they do.

If you'd like more information about Our Lady of the Lake School, and a complete list of the dozens of activities the PTO has planned, visit their website at www.ourladyofthelakeschooleuclid.org.

Did You Know?

Nationally, two million students attend Catholic preschool, elementary and secondary schools.

Our Lady of the Lake offers a quality curriculum that meets all state and national standards, as well as academic enrichment.

The national average staffing ratio in Catholic Schools is 13:1

Our Lady of the Lake has offered quality education for more than 80 years.

The top ten cities with the highest Catholic School enrollments are Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, New York, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Brooklyn, Boston, St Louis and New Orleans.

Our Lady of the Lake students have access to a state-of-the-art computer lab, distance learning lab, iPads, Chromebooks and smart boards in every classroom.

Join the Discussion at: www.collinwoodobserver.com

Arts

Finding The Oasis, An 18 Year Old Dream To Bring Art To Collinwood's South Side

Darece Daniels

I sat down with Malena Grigoli, to discuss her art project, that she's bringing to South Collinwood. Malena, an 18 year old student, knows the value of art and having a mentor in her life. She attends Ohio Virtual Academy (But she take all of her classes at Tri-C through the College Credit Plus program)

Malena; What you proposing to do and why?

For my project I plan to acquire a house in South Collinwood that is not being used to its full potential and renovate it into an art sanctuary for those in the community. Each room will be designated to a specific art form (dance, painting & drawing, writing, etc.) so that anyone who comes can choose from a wide variety of methods of expression. Children, teens, and adults will be welcomed, for no cost, to spend time expressing themselves in a productive and creative manner. Volunteer art therapists and artists will spend time teaching and providing any aid one might desire. The Art Oasis will provide a productive way for individuals to spend their free time and have access to the arts community in a way they otherwise might not. As someone who has had the arts play an influential role in their life, I know that art is an important part of life and provides a necessary form of distraction and expression.

Why is the Art Oasis important to you?

Having been involved in creative communities my whole life, I recognize the arts

as, in addition to an outlet for oneself, a window into the minds and perspectives of others. The arts facilitate communication and understanding between us like no other method I've found. Any community can benefit from a space dedicated to understanding and growth, both personal and interpersonal. You are so young, and this project is a very grown up thing to do, is this something you've always wanted to do? Like I said before, I've always been drawn to the arts. Given the opportunity and resources to create positive change in the Cleveland community through the Robert L.Lewis program at Tri-C, an arts-focused project seemed like the natural choice.

What impact are you hoping The Art Oasis will make in the community?

Often violence and crime occur as a result of boredom or the lack of an outlet for pain and emotion. Exposure to the arts can provide a solution to these issues as well as increasing self-esteem and compassion. However, for many individuals it can be difficult to find access to the arts for a variety of reasons including cost, location, or time. Bringing a home for art into their community would eliminate some of these obstacles.

How important is it to you to have Professor Todd Williams as your mentor?

Professor Williams has been an invaluable part of this experience. His knowledge, enthusiasm, and friendships within the community are the reason the project has made it this far. I'm thrilled to be working



Mentor, Professor Todd Williams and Malena



Malena and her mentor, Professor Todd Williams

with someone who is as excited about the potential of an art oasis as I am. What are your plans after you graduate? Following my high school graduation I will be attending a four-year university, although I'm undecided at the moment as to which one. Eventually I would love to go into law.

What kind of support are you looking from the art community, if any.

I would love to see experienced artists come to demonstrate their skills, offering knowledge and guidance through occasional workshops and even simply spending time with those interested in garnering new skills. Of course art supply donations would always

be appreciated if someone is excited about a tool or medium and would like to share. Mostly, though, I want anyone to be able to come to The Art Oasis and create in an environment where they feel they can both inspire and be inspired.

What type of advice did Professor Todd Williams give you to move ahead?

Professor Williams is always encouraging with his confidence and enthusiasm. We will continue to meet and discuss how things are going, and I feel that I can reach out to him at any time with any questions or confusion I may have.

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A piece of mind is an excellent thing to embrace.

Meet Mr. Hall

Mr. Hall is a proud veteran who has lived at Indian Hills Senior Community in Euclid for over 15 years. He works at John Carroll University and is an active father, grandfather and happiness success story. As a rare icon of a gentleman, he exudes positivity, gratitude and grace that quietly impacts his church, community, family and social circles with an unforgettable attitude and smile.



He has participated in the Indian Hills fashion show and regularly attends tenant appreciation cookouts, pot-lucks, and special events. He loves sports, especially basketball and has some valuable wisdom. As you age, it is best to have a "simple plan and start living happily instead of stressed." So many people his age are simply trying "to prove too much... getting big mortgages and flashy things [that can] make more bills and stress than needed." He believes in getting to bed early and making plenty of time for enjoyable things such as playing spades every week with fellow tenants at Indian Hills. Valuing sensibility and the blessings in his life, one can see he is truly in the moment with less stress and more meaningful connections. Many people know him but it is his philosophy that is the real Mr. Hall. A philosophy that has helped him to overcome challenges, stay healthy, live pain free and build a life filled with friends, family and the fun he deserves. For him, keeping up on a home and gathering fancy stuff can end up ruling too much of one's life. In his words, "life is too short to be stressed and miss out on family, friends and a piece of mind."

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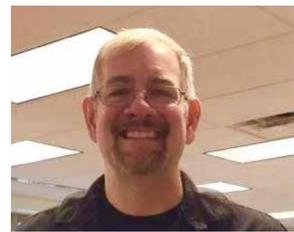


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Senior Page

Bob's Corner



by Bob Payne
A senior told me today that they are very angry at another senior. When I asked about it, I was told that they are upset because of an inconsiderate comment that was made over a year ago!

One of the most difficult challenges in life is forgiveness.

It's hard because we have all been hurt, sometimes severely, and we tend to hold on to that record of harm. When we think of the person involved we immediately feel upset and angry. Even if it has been years, the emotions still rush forward as the unhealed wound is exposed from our memory. Suddenly, we find ourselves back in the past and we relive the painful event. It still hurts. So, we resist forgiving people because we feel that letting go would be allowing them to get away with what they have done to us. We hold on tightly to the anger, the resentment and the pain. It festers just under the surface until the memory is once again brought to mind.

My friends, there is a healthier way. Healing begins with forgiveness.

Forgiveness is not giving someone a free pass for what they've done, and it does not mean that you agree with their behavior. It does not excuse their actions, and it certainly does not mean that you will allow them to hurt you again.

It does not matter if the other person deserves forgiveness or even if they've asked for it - because this part is about you, not them. It's a choice, a decision that you are making to get on with your life.

Forgiveness releases you from the distress and negativity that the memory causes. It's letting go of a past event so that it doesn't cause you pain today. This is about you, your wellness and your peace of mind. It is you taking back control, becoming emotionally healthier and improving your quality of life.

So, what do you do with the hurt? Let it go. Quit touching the wound. Choose peace for your life instead of smoldering resentment. It is a process that you may have to repeat often, but letting go allows the healing to begin. This is your life. Don't let old anger and hurt takeover your thoughts and emotions today. Release the past and move forward. Do it for you!

Bob Payne, Manager

Euclid Senior Center

All the programs listed are available at Euclid Lakefront Community Center 1 Bliss Lane, Euclid, OH 44123 216-289-2985 www.cityofeuclid.com



Senior Center



If the Euclid City Schools are CLOSED for inclement weather, there will be NO LUNCHES served in the dining room or homebound. Activities at the center will also be CANCELLED. School closing are shown on channel 3, 5 & 8.

It is with great pleasure that I announce that we have exceeded our senior meals fundraising goal!

Breakfast with the Bob



Join us on Thursday, February 9th at Adam's Place at 8:30AM for Breakfast with Bob. The "Bob's Special" will be 2 eggs, breakfast meat; ham, sausage or bacon, home fries and toast for \$4.00 without coffee.

It's good to be part of Senior Programs!

ENTERTAINMENT



Fun BINGO

February 14th and 28th
Bingo for Prizes - 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. - FREE Sponsored by Randall Residence & Mount St. Joseph.



Valentine's Day Party

Join us on Tuesday, February 14th 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. for games and fun. Sponsored by Wickliffe Country Place and Euclid Senior Programs.



BIRTHDAY DAY- February 15th

Cup Cakes Sponsored by Aberdeen Assisted Living. Ice Cream Sponsored by Euclid Senior Programs.

F.F.F.

Join us Thursday, February 16th 10:30 AM in the Library for Fun For Foodies. The group will meet the third Thursday of every month to discuss recipes and have a demonstration from a local Chef. The class is free, but please sign-up at the front desk so we know how many will be attending. Thanks!

Music Bingo Ohio

Tuesday, February 21st - 11:00 a.m. Join Kenny Gilder for Bingo + Music + Fun = A Music Bingo Party.

TRIPS



JACK Thistle-down Racino

Monday, February 13th
Leave the center at 9:00 a.m. and return to the center around 3:30 p.m. \$10.00 per person, per trip. Drop off at casino front door. Register at the front desk. LIMITED SEATING; however we must have at least 10 people registered. No Refunds unless your spot is filled.



Grande Pointe Fun Bingo

Tuesday, February 21st- Leave the Senior Center at 1:15 p.m. and return to the center around 3:00 p.m. Take a ride in our van to Grande Pointe in Richmond Hts. for a FUN BINGO including prizes & cookies. It's FREE - Register at the front Desk.

Gateway Manor Fun Bingo

Thursday, February 23rd - Leave the Senior Center at 1:15 p.m. and return to the center around 3:00 p.m. Take a ride in our van to Gateway at Euclid for a FUN BINGO including prizes & cookies. It's FREE - Register at the front Desk.

Breakfast with Grande Pointe

Wednesday, February 9th - 9:30 - 10:30 Breakfast with Grande Pointe will be the second Wednesday of each month. Join us for muffins, fresh fruit and coffee. YUM!!!

FREE FRESH PRODUCE

Euclid Senior Programs Monday, February 27th- 12:30 - 2:30 PM (or until all produce is gone) First Come First Served Please bring your ID

SPEAKERS

Better Senior Living Choices
Friday, January 6th at 11:00 a.m. Cilla Buck from CarePatrol will be here to talk about the differences of independent living, assisted living, memory care and nursing home care.

Managing Your Utility Bills

Tuesday, January 10th - 11:15 a.m. The Office of the Ohio Consumer's Counsel (OCC) is the state agency that represents of Ohio's residential utility consumers before state and federal regulators and in the courts. Will be here to talk about to how you Managing your utility bills and also how to better manage the rising cost of their electric and natural gas bills.

Community Police Talk

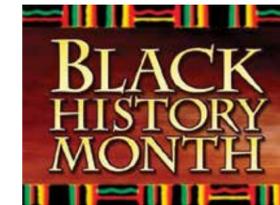
Thursday, February 9th at 12:15 p.m. "Cop -a- Question" - Immediately after Lunch. Members from our Police Department update us monthly and will answer all your questions. Can't be here? Leave your questions at the front desk. Also, if you have old medication that you need to discard, they will take it as long as it is not liquid or needles.

Grief Support Group

Thursday, February 9th - 12:45 p.m. This Grief Support Group is for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one whether it was a spouse, child, parent,

Senior Page

sibling or friend. Please join us for a new opportunity provided by the Euclid Senior Programs & Hospice of the Western Reserve. Join us for the Celebration of Black History Month



Weekly Itinerary

Thursday, February 2nd at 10:45 Euclid High School drum line and dance team as well as speakers reading excerpts from "I Have a Dream".

Monday, February 6th at 11:30 "Life experience in the South" by Joe Tabb. Friday, February 17th at 10:45 - Drumming experience by Linda Thomas Jones "Mama Fasi" Wednesday, February 22nd at 11:00 The Euclid High School "A Capella group Forte Choir.

Soul Food Pot Luck

YUM!! We will conclude Black History Month with a celebration on February 28th at 11:00 Please wear your African dress and bring in your favorite soul food to share!

Sign-up at the front desk and then bring it to the Center around 10:45

SERVICES



DPS

Tuesday, February 14th 10:00 a.m. to Noon & 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. 20 - Minute free consultations. Have a question for an attorney regarding estate planning, wills, trusts, Medicaid Eligibility, Long Term Care Needs, or Veterans Benefits? The attorneys at Daniel P. Seink Co. offer vast experience in the field of elder law. Founder and Managing

Partner, Daniel P. Seink, is one of twenty Ohio attorneys certified as an Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation. Sign up for a 20 - minute time slot (FREE) at front desk. This service will continue on the second Tuesday of each month.

BENEFITS CHECK-UP - FREE

Monday, February 27th 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Euclid Senior Programs also coordinates the Benefits Check - Up program at the Lakefront Community Center. Benefits Check - Up is a program to screen adults 60+ for over 70 money-saving programs: prescription drug assistance, help paying Medicare premiums, helps with heating bills, phone discount, and much more. Call 216-289-2985 to schedule an appt.

Podiatrist

Dr. Bangayan will be here on Wednesday, February 15th & 22nd at 9:20 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Call 289-2985 for an appointment at the center. Fee - \$20.00, with

HEALTH AND FITNESS

Chair Yoga - Mondays at 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. AC \$ 3.00 per class.

Yoga - Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. Annex Room \$ 3.00 per class.

Tai-Chi - Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. DR - Six week series - \$24, Drop-ins \$6.00 per class.

Billie Exercise Class - (Chair) Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - Computer Room

Line Dance - Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

Free Blood Pressure Checks
Thursdays mornings 10:00-11:00 a.m. Please give your name to the volunteer and she will issue you a number. Wait in the hallway until your number is called.

Chair Exercise to Music - 11:00 a.m. DRA - Wednesday

Silver Sneaker Class - 10:00 - 10:50 a.m. - Dining Room Annex Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Free with Silver Sneakers membership.

FUN AND GAMES

BEADING CLASS:
Monday, January 9th 10:30 a.m. to Noon. FREE to members

Quilting Class - 2nd & 3rd Thursdays - 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Pinochle Tournament - Fridays - 1:00 p.m. Computer Room.

Open Card Play -Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. Card games Pinochle, Bridge & Rummy.

Bingo - Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 12:45 p.m. - Dining Room.

Pool Tournament - Friday, February 17th 9:20 a.m. January winner - Jermaine McCaleb

Crochet- 10:00 a.m. - Tuesday, AC

Adult Coloring - 1:00 Tuesday, AC

EDUCATION - SOCIALIZATION

Bible Study - non-denominational group is led by Artis Powell. The group meets Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. - Library.

Arts & Crafts - 10:00 a.m. Wednesday - AC

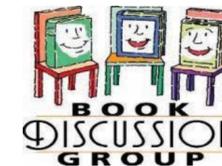
CARP Meeting
Thursday, February 23rd- 1:00 p.m.

Sewing - 10:00 a.m. - Thursdays, AC

Art with Jack - 12:45 p.m. Tuesdays

AARP

Monday, February 6th - 1:00 p.m. Speaker: Dan Knecht Euclid Service Director.



Book Discussion - March 13th At 1:15 p.m. in the Senior Center Library. Jennifer from the Euclid Public Library will lead the discussion on the book, "The Way Life Should Be" by Christina Baker Kline.

Post Office On Wheels

Friday, February 17th 10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Special Services, Money Orders, Stamps & Packaging Supplies are available.

Get Well Cards

We will be glad to send a card to a member who is recovering, feeling down or just needs a little boost. Let Sylka know if you would like a card sent to another member to help brighten their day and give a little encouragement. 216-289-2985.

Nutritional Programs

Euclid Senior Center offers a lunch program Monday through Friday at Noon. We serve a nutritious meal that supplies 1/3 of your daily nutrition requirements. Our menus are written by a licensed dietician to insure you receive a healthy lunch. The suggested donation is only \$1.00. Reservations are to be made Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, BY NOON for the following week. When reserving, please be conscientious and look ahead to make sure you reserve lunch for the days you know you will be here. We now have to report the number of no-shows and seconds. Please help us to lessen the no shows/seconds. You can help to make a difference. Thank you!

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mamacatenas.com

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10:00 Coffee and chat with friends			
10:30 Yoga/Meditation	10:30 SilverSneakers exercise	10:30 Various Activities	10:30 SilverSneakers exercise
11:30 Lunch	11:30 Lunch	11:30 Lunch	11:30 Lunch
12:30 Line Dancing	1:00 Knitting group	12:30 Bingo	12:00 Bible study
1:00 Cards, puzzles, games			1:00 Computer lab open
			Movie afternoon
216.373.1915			



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